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THE HEATING PLANT

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In large steam-heated buildings there is usually a great loss in time and in heat efficiency, and an unnecessary expenditure for fuel, on account of lack of a definite firing system.

The record given in the accompanying table is actually taken from that kept by a fireman in a building which has floor space equal to that of twenty-five rooms, each 30 by 40 feet, and where it is necessary that the building be comfortable between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Where the building is in use earlier, the record should begin earlier, and where it is in use longer, the record should be continued.

With this system as a basis, each one may standardize his own plant. The ensuing explanations followed by the record will probably make the system clear. The figures heading the columns show time of record (thus 7 means 7:00 A.M., 9 means 9:00 A.M.) and the letters O.T. stand for outside temperature. The record shows one week of poor firing (accounted for) and one week of good firing, according to this particular standardizing.

Date	7	O.T.	9	O.T.	11	O.T.	1	O.T.	3	O.T.
Mon., 10	2	65	5	68	5	68	3	68	2	66
Tues., 11	3	58	5	50	5	62	4	64	3	66
Wed., 12	3	50	5	52	5	54	5	38	5	32
Thurs., 13	2	16	4	18	4	19	4	21	4	26
Fri., 14	1	18	4	23	5	28	5	30	5	32
Mon., 24	2	50	3	54	2	56	0	58	0	60
Tues., 25	2	48	3	50	2	56	0	59	0	62
Wed., 26	1	57	0	58	1	58	0	61	0	64
Thurs., 27	2	58	0	56	0	58	0	64	0	60
Fri., 28	1	54	0	48	2	52	0	52	0	52

The fireman has the following fixed instructions: (1) At least one pound of steam must be recorded by 7:00 A.M. in ordinary weather, and in extremely cold weather by 6:00 A.M. (2) Cease firing when the outside temperature is 60. (3) The number of pounds of steam carried should always be commensurate with outside temperature.

To obviate incorrectly kept records, it is necessary for someone to check from time to time. Also, there is the fluctuation in pressure to be considered, for in the course of a few minutes, by opening the flue doors and otherwise, the pressure may be materially lowered. The majority of firemen shovel in coal without regard to time of day or weather conditions. When this record is used they cannot do this without detection.

It is desired to stress the fact that this record is easily kept, and that if the explanations are read and the record thoroughly studied the system may be easily understood.